

bill promotes community based services via self-directed models of care. It specifically directs the Assistant Secretary on Aging to help individuals avoid depleting their assets in order to qualify for Medicaid. This bill would reduce instances of abuse and neglect and improve data collection on the subject by broadening the definition of abuse to include self neglect and better coordinating the efforts of state and local agencies, building on the ideas promoted by my colleague from Illinois, Mr. EMMANUEL. I also am very happy that the bill emphasizes the importance of mental health in many ways, drawing on the spirit of the Positive Aging Act sponsored by Mr. KENNEDY.

Mr. Speaker, The 38th Vice President of the United States, Hubert Humphrey, once said, "The moral test of government is how it treats those who are in the dawn of life . . . the children [and] those who are in the twilight of life . . . the elderly." The Senior Independence Act of 2006 ensures that our Government continues to recognize the needs of the elder within our country and continues to fulfill these needs.

#### HEALTH CENTERS RENEWAL ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 21, 2006*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5573, the Health Centers Renewal Act of 2006. This legislation is an important first step towards a straight reauthorization of the community health centers program. As we all know, community health centers are the backbone of our Nation's health care safety net, providing quality, affordable primary health care to over 15 million people across the country. There is overwhelming, bipartisan support for the community health centers program because the evidence of its success is undeniable. Health centers are efficient, locally controlled, and provide a high standard of care: simply put, they work.

In my District, the eighth district of Massachusetts, community health centers are not only essential to providing access to excellent health care in many of the neighborhoods I represent, but they are also pillars of the communities they serve. The community board, a majority of which is comprised of patients that the health center serves, is an essential part of keeping individual health centers inextricably linked to the community and its needs. It is significant that the bill before the House recognizes the unique, consumer-driven nature of the health centers model that has worked so well for many years. This fundamental structure of the health centers program must be maintained to ensure that the widely acknowledged success of the program continues.

The bill before the House authorizes appropriations for fiscal year 2007 at the same level as proposed by the President in his budget. This is a promising first step that echoes the amount authorized for fiscal year 2007 in H.R. 5201, legislation offered by my fellow cochair of the Community Health Centers Caucus, the gentleman from Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS. How-

ever, that legislation, which I have cosponsored along with 233 Members of the House, would authorize such sums as necessary for fiscal years 2008–2011. The legislation we are considering today authorizes a specific dollar amount for each of those years, and I am concerned that the amounts in the bill may not take into account the costs of both the President's plan to expand health centers to every poor county in the Nation and the growing demands placed on existing health centers due to the increasing numbers of uninsured or underinsured, coupled with rising costs of providing medical care.

As the reauthorization moves forward, I hope that we can all remember those health centers in our districts who serve everyone who walks through their doors, regardless of ability to pay. They do extraordinary work, and we have an obligation to ensure that they have sufficient resources to continue to fulfill their essential role in our Nation's health care safety net.

#### RECOGNIZING DOUGLAS BURNETT FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 27, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Douglas Burnett, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Douglas has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Douglas has been involved with scouting, he not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Douglas Burnett for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF LEWISVILLE'S COMMUNITY RE- LATIONS AND TOURISM DEPART- MENT

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 27, 2006*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the city of Lewisville's Community Relations and Tourism Department for winning two State awards by the Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers: The Best Marketing Plan and Best Special Event. Lewisville is my hometown and sits in the heart of the 26th Congressional District.

Lewisville's Community Relations and Tourism Department won "Best Marketing Plan" for its promotion of the 2005 Bassmaster Elite 50 tournament and county fair. The tournament was a huge success and was broadcast on ESPN. The Bassmaster Elite held on

Lewisville Lake gave sports fishermen around the world a glimpse of beautiful North Texas, and I am honored that the city developed an award winning plan in conjunction with the competition.

The team also won "Best Special Event" for the 2005 Holiday at the Hall Festival. The Festival is always a welcome relief to holiday stress and last year was enjoyed by more than 10,000 people. In 2005, the city held its third annual event in Old Town Lewisville highlighted by the Holiday Parade down Main Street.

I extend my sincerest congratulations to the city of Lewisville and the Community Relations and Tourism Department on their accomplishments. I am honored to represent the city and call it my hometown.

#### IN HONOR OF LOUIS BROWLOWE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 27, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Louis Brownlowe, upon his retirement that follows an exemplary, thirty-six year career as a Teacher-Counselor, Dean of Special Studies and Dean of University Studies at Cleveland State University.

Mr. Brownlowe earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology from Miles College and a Masters Degree in Education from Cleveland State University. Throughout his tenure at CSU, he concentrated his efforts on programs and projects that provide access to higher education for non-traditional students, who otherwise would not have had the opportunity to enroll in college.

In 1971, Mr. Brownlowe became actively involved in the Ohio Association of TRIO Program Directors. He served on the task force of the National Council of Educational Opportunity Associates, which eventually became a significant aspect of the Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act of 1980. Mr. Brownlowe was a leading force in establishing CSU's Upward Bound Program, which began in 1999. Mr. Brownlowe continues his dedication to civic action and empowering others, especially our youth. As the Superintendent of the Sunday School and President of the Youth Ministry at Union Grove Baptist Church, Mr. Brownlowe serves as a gentle guide and inspiration and a shining role model that reflects the significance of personal strength, conviction, determination, accomplishment, and the importance of education.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, recognition and gratitude of Mr. Louis Brownlowe, upon his retirement from Cleveland State University—a vocation of the heart, framed by thirty-six years of outstanding service, integrity and accomplishment. His dedication, expertise, leadership, and energy, focused on educational opportunity for all, extends outward into the community where he volunteers his time and talents on behalf of lifting countless lives onto a foundation of hope, spiritual strength and opportunity. I wish Mr. Brownlowe and his family an abundance of health, peace and happiness as his journey begins from here.